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January—March
2009Maricopa County Animal
Care and Control

Trailin' Tails Newsletter

New Uno por Uno Program Takes Off



One of the many dogs that has passed through MCACC's doors looking for a forever home— he got one!

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control (MCACC) is taking a proactive approach to safeguard public health and safety and to save the lives of more pets through initiatives like the Uno por Uno program. Uno por Uno provides direct services and edu-



cates pet owners one-by-one about responsible pet ownership, spaying and neutering, the leash law, the importance of pet vaccinations, and dog licensing.

Uno por Uno (Spanish for one by one) was started in 2007 as a culturally sensitive campaign addressing the needs of at risk or under-served neighborhoods in Maricopa County. Uno por Uno offers free or low-cost spay/neuter services, rabies vaccination clinics, license clinics and education on a frequent and repetitive basis throughout one neighborhood.

Neighborhoods identified are areas with a high number of dogs running loose and a low licensing compliance. They also show a high incidence of bites, and large number of impounded animals.

Pet overpopulation is a big problem in Maricopa County. Maricopa County is the fourth largest county in the United States, but has the second largest municipal shelter in the country. Last year, MCACC cared for 55,974 dogs and cats in its shelters.

More than 24,000 of those animals were adopted out, returned to their owners or transferred to other animal welfare organizations. While MCACC has not euthanized any healthy, adoptable animals since October 2005, they still euthanized more than

30,000 animals last year that were sick, aggressive or had other behavior problems.

Uno por Uno is a pro-active and creative approach to curb the problem of pet overpopulation and end the senseless euthanasia of adoptable pets in Maricopa County. For the past two years, Uno por Uno has occurred in one neighborhood each year, for an extended period of time.

The new Uno por Uno will be in a new neighborhood every two weeks, bringing services to the neediest areas of the County. During that time, MCACC's Animal Education Officers will travel throughout the chosen area, handing out educational information, and holding rabies vaccination and spay/neuter clinics.

The new program kicked off November 1st with a free rabies vaccination clinic at Glendale High School, followed by a free spay/neuter clinic at a church in Glendale. Uno por Uno may be coming to your neighborhood next. To see where we'll be, visit www.unoporuno.org

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Search the web with www.goodsearch.com and money from Yahoo advertisers will go to FACC's – Friends of Animal Care & Control without you spending a dime!



One of the many cats that have come through our doors needing a new home—he got one!

Animal First Aid Kit:

First Aid Book
Gauze pads
Bandages
Cotton Tipped Applicators
Muzzle
Cold Pack
Antiseptic Wipes
Disposable Gloves

Woofstock Goes to the Dogs



The first annual Woofstock was a success. A dog walk, concert, dog demonstrations, contests and much more brought out many dog lovers and their canine pals.



The City of Chandler, Chandler Center for the Arts, American Service Animal Society and Maricopa County Animal Care and Control joined together to raise money and celebrate dogs.

Proper Nutrition For Cats

Just as for humans, feeding your cat the right kind and amount of food can keep her happy and healthy. When searching for a brand of food, consider your cat's age, body condition and life stage. Whatever variety you go with, make sure you take into account any special feeding requirements. For example, kittens need the nutrients found in food made specifically for cats under one year of age, and lactating mothers can use extra calories. Since your veterinarian is familiar with your cat's lifestyle and health issues, he or she is also a good resource to help you choose the appropriate diet.

Also keep in mind that a premium-quality food will contain the right percentages of nutrients, along with necessary vitamins and minerals. Generally, it is advisable to avoid poor quality generic brands. They may reflect lower quality ingredients or less rigorous manufacturing standards.

Unlike dogs, who can get all their nutrients from plant-based proteins, domestic felines need meat to meet their dietary requirements. Make sure that the food you choose contains the following: **Protein:** An average adult cat's diet should consist of at least 28% protein, which helps regulate metabolism and build and repair tissue. **Taurine:** Taurine is important to prevent visual, cardiac and reproductive problems. **Fats:** Felines need fats, which transport vitamins throughout the body and help maintain a healthy coat. Cats require both linoleic and arachidonic fatty acids. Arachidonic acid is found only in animal sources of fat. Fats should make up at least 9% of the diet. **Vitamins:** Pre-formed vitamin A must also be present in the cat's diet. **Carbohydrates:** These should comprise no more than 40% of a feline's daily allowance.

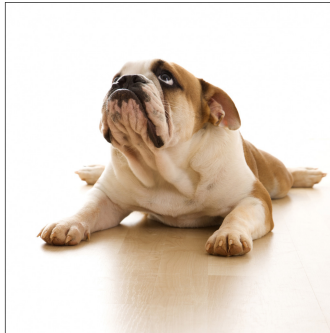
Most cats prefer free choice feeding, which means that food is available at all times. This method is most appropriate when feeding dry food, which will not spoil if left out. However, if your cat overeats with this method, or if you have chosen to feed a wet food, then you will need to go on a regular feeding schedule.

Besides high-quality food, cats need to have clean, good-quality water available at all times. Insufficient water intake may affect an animal's physical activity, reproduction, lactation, and growth. In a desert environment, inadequate water supply could lead to death. Feed your feline friend a healthy, well-balanced diet and you will have many wonderful years together.



Separation Anxiety

Supposedly, absence makes the heart grow fonder. However, the absence of an owner sends some dogs into wailing and barking, house soiling, and even self-destructive behavior. All these are signs that a dog is suffering from separation anxiety. Though this can be frustrating, there are things you can do to help ease your dog's anxiety.



minutes before you leave. Turn off the lights and turn on the TV, radio, or whatever you play most when you are home. When you walk out the door, don't create a big good bye scene.

Some dogs will read the signs of imminent departure and work themselves into a frenzy even before you leave. If putting on make-up, packing a lunch or putting papers into your briefcase distresses the dog, desensitize him by doing

Separation anxiety is often a problem of over-bonding. While it is nice to have your dog close by, it is wise to promote a degree of independence, so that your absence is not so distressing when you leave. Start by teaching your dog to stay on his own bed while you go out of sight for a few seconds, then minutes. Gradually build up the length of time you are in another room.

It is also a good idea to have more than one person in the household interact with the dog. Walks, play sessions and feedings should not be provided by just one person. It makes their absence the end of all that is good in the world to the dog.

When you do have to leave the house, diffuse the emotion of your departure. Exercise your dog right after you wake up. After feeding him, scale back your attention to the point of ignoring him during the last 15

ing them at other times (such as before mealtime). Presenting a toy, such as a Kong, stuffed with goodies can also draw the focus away from your leaving.

Other options are to drop your dog off at a doggie day-care center, or to adopt a second dog, so that your anxious one is never truly alone.

All of these things can help ease a dog's separation anxiety. But some dogs are more seriously afflicted, and need professional help. Have your dog assessed by a veterinary or an applied animal behaviorist; they can provide your dog with desensitization exercises and/or pharmacological aid.

Most importantly – DON'T GIVE UP ON YOUR DOG!! He wants to do the right thing; he just may need a little help.



One of the many dogs MCACC has taken in needing forever homes.

Spay and neuter your pets

Get your dogs and cats spayed or neutered! MCACC gets in over 50,000 animals a year, many of them unwanted kittens and puppies. These innocent animals have little chance of survival in our shelters—they need too much care. Please help us stop unnecessary euthanasia—spay and neuter your pets! MCACC's the Big Fix No-Cost Spay/Neuter Voucher Program offers a free spay or neuter surgery for your cat or dog. Please visit us on the web at www.pets.maricopa.gov to print out a form or call us at (602) 506-PETS.

World Rabies Day 2008 a Success

MCACC hosted its second annual World Rabies Day Rabies Vaccination Clinics. One clinic was held in Avondale and one in Awatukee. Valley residents turned out with their pets to get them vaccinated against rabies. Close to 300 people brought their dogs and cats to the two events.



The most important global source of rabies in humans is from uncontrolled rabies in dogs. Here in Arizona, the main source is from wild animals such as bats, fox, and bobcats. But if one of these animals bites your unvaccinated pet, he could contract the disease and even pass it on to you. That's why

the best prevention of rabies is to get your pet vaccinated.

Rabies is an infectious viral disease that affects the nervous system of humans and other mammals. It is almost always fatal once symptoms appear. More than 55,000 people worldwide die from rabies each year. That's one person every 10 minutes.

To eliminate the problem, we need to ensure adequate animal vaccination and control, educating those at risk, and enhancing access of those bitten to appropriate medical care. Keep an eye out for one of our vaccination clinics around the valley.

Upcoming Events

Jan 25—Petwalk 2009—Tempe Town Lake

February—National Pet Owners Month
Pet Dental Month
Cat Health Month

March 23—National Puppy Day



MCACC took in over 55,000 dogs and cats last year. Please give one a good home!

Be sure to check out our web site every month to see what else is happening and where our Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus will be.

<http://www.maricopa.gov/Pets/News/Calendar.aspx>

Call or email us and we'll bring the Mobile Pet Adoptions Bus to your business or neighborhood!

llong@ mail.mariocpa.gov 602-249-6504

Rabies Clinic

Specials: \$20

West and East Shelters

Sundays 12 —4 p.m.

Mondays 9—11 a.m.

Tuesdays 9—11 a.m.

Making a Difference

We are delighted to have had the support of a special group of young people this year. The Show Stoppers, a 35-member youth group from White Star Stables in Scottsdale, ride and show American Saddlebred horses, and also devote a lot of their time to supporting worthy causes. This year, they chose Friends of Animal Care & Control (FACCs), and through their hard work and dedication, they collected dozens of blankets for our shelter animals, and raised over \$500 for FACCs! They presented the blankets and generous check to Shelter Manager Linda Soto when they came to take a



tour of our new west-side shelter. Thank you, Show Stoppers! You make a difference in the lives of the animals!

Volunteers Page

Volunteer of the Month Phil Candy



Ask anyone who works or volunteers at the Maricopa County Animal Care & Control West Shelter about volunteer Phil Candy and you'll hear how committed he is to helping animals and the community. Phil is a superstar.

On Phil's first day he handled adoptions and expressed interest in fostering a dog as well. Instead of sending him home with a dog we sent him home with two kittens that needed to be bottle fed every 2-3 hours. Phil tried it out, but with working full time and volunteering, the fostering of bottle babies was too much. He brought them back after a few weeks and took home some older kittens.

Phil recently took three dogs off of the E-list so he could take them home and foster them. What a great guy! You will see Phil come in rain or shine just about every weekend.

Phil has received numerous recommendations from MCACC staff and volunteers for nomination as this month's greatest volunteer and he certainly deserves it for helping to make a difference at MCACC. Thanks Phil, for all of your hard work and helping the animals!

Foster Families Needed

Fostering is a temporary placement of the homeless animals MCACC takes in and it helps save lives. To be a foster family all you need is a caring heart, some time and a place for the animals. Animals that need fostering are usually puppies and kittens not yet old enough to be placed up for adoption and those who are recovering from an illness or medical procedure. As a foster family, MCACC gives you the food and supplies to take care of them. You provide the love and nurturing. Foster care is a great thing to do if you're thinking about adopting or if you don't feel ready for the full-time commitment. Fostering usually takes a time commitment of 1 – 4 weeks. Please help out all the animals in need of a little extra love and time. If you are interested, please call MCACC's Foster Coordinators:

West Shelter— 602-372-1158

East Shelter— 602-506-6279

Volunteer Tips

Remember:

Whether you are a volunteer or an employee, you are representing MCACC. As a volunteer of MCACC, it is required that when dealing with customers, you be polite and courteous. It is also required to treat all employees and volunteers with respect. Please refer to the Ethics handbook you received and the Code of Conduct policy.

If you'd like to receive this newsletter electronically, please visit us at : www.pets.maricopa.gov



MCACC took in over 12,000 cats last year. Please give one a good home!

Become a Volunteer

Believe it or not, MCACC still needs more dedicated volunteers. Help is needed to assist with adoptions and socializing animals. This is a rewarding and dynamic volunteer experience waiting for you. Whether you are interested in walking dogs, petting kittens, or assisting with adoptions there is a way you can help! Call our Volunteer Coordinator at (602) 506-8133.



One of the lucky cats to find a new home through MCACC this year.

Settling into a New Home with your Pet

Moving to a new home may be stressful for your pet, so be patient, understanding, and provide lots of extra affection. Here are some pointers to help you both settle in safely and sanely. Make your new home safe for your pet by securing items that could be harmful to him. Make sure he does not have access to:

- * Things that can poison, such as cleansers, insect sprays, pesticides, medications, chocolate, antifreeze, and plants.
- * Things that can burn, such as plugged-in appliances, boiling liquids, and open flames.
- * Things that can electrocute, such as chewed-through lamp cords.
- * Things that can strangle or obstruct breathing, such as choke collars, small balls or toys, bones, sewing thread and needles, and pantyhose.
- * Things that can topple or crush, such as precariously-placed appliances, top-heavy filing cabinets and lamps.
- * Things that can allow escape or theft, such as loose screens and inadequate fences.

And NEVER leave your pet unattended on a balcony or chained in a yard.

As soon as possible, find a nearby veterinarian, as well as a 24-hour emergency veterinary facility, and take a practice drive to both. Trying to find them in an emergency can cost precious time.

Dogs

Ideally, your dog's first introduction to his new home will be with familiar furniture already in place, including his bed and crate, toys, and food and water bowls. If your dog has access to a yard, make sure the fence is too high to jump, that the gate latches securely, and that your dog cannot dig under the fence.

Cats

For the first few days, it's smart to confine your cat to one room of your new home while you work on putting the rest of the place in order. Prepare the room with your cat's bed, litter box, food and water bowls, and toys. Now is the perfect time to make your cat an indoor pet. Cats who live indoors live longer and healthier lives. Resist attempts by your cat to go outdoors. If she hasn't established an outdoor territory, she is less likely to be interested in going outside. If you play with your cat and supply her lots of attention, she should have all she needs.

Keep your Dog Safe When Outside

The time of year that we all wait for is here. The weather is perfect and we all head outside more often with our pets. Following are some tips to keep your pet safe in the desert.

It's important to keep your dog on a leash when you go for hikes or walks. You never know what they may encounter off leash. Your dog's nose could come into contact with a cactus, he could discover an unhappy snake or other wild animal. Also, he may run off if distracted by something.

Whenever you do take your dog outside with you, make sure to keep him on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Check that his collar and license are securely

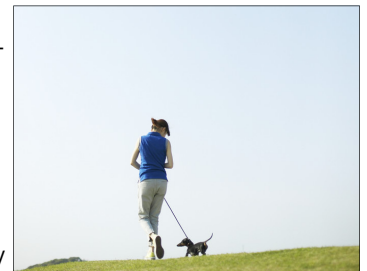
on. Keep up-to-date on all vaccinations.

If your dog does get lost, visit the local shelters.

Maricopa County Animal Care and

Control has two locations – 2500 S. 27th Avenue in Phoenix and 2630 W. 8th Street in Mesa. Post pictures of your dog around the area where he got lost.

And post pictures online at www.pets911.com



Help us control the pet overpopulation problem. Get you pet spayed or neutered!

Ways to Help the Animals

While MCACC was originally founded for the purpose of catching and killing stray animals to prevent the spread of rabies and other diseases, the population growth in Maricopa County has resulted in an ever increasing number of healthy and treatable dogs and cats looking to MCACC to find them homes. As a "special revenue fund" within Maricopa County, MCACC is responsible for generating funds for both its mandated and non-mandated services. However, as a County department, MCACC is unable to solicit donations.

By becoming a donor of your dollars, your time, or by holding a donation drive, you can help ensure that MCACC can provide the care and services that will ultimately make it possible for MCACC to reach its goal of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy and treatable pets by 2012.

Please send me information about the following

◇ How to Volunteer

◇ How to Donate

◇ Information on: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

☐ Yes, I would like to receive your email newsletter!

Mail to: MCACC Community Relations

2500 S. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85009

Spay and Neuter Your Pets

Spring is the time of year where shelters across the country start to get prepared for high intake numbers. Dogs and cats tend to breed more during the spring months. Summer rolls around and there are puppies and kittens everywhere. Help us work to control the unwanted animals by getting your pets spayed and neutered right now.

Spaying and neutering is beneficial for your pet in many ways:

- Helps with problem spraying
- Helps reduce costly medical bills
- Reduces urge to roam
- Eliminates messy heat cycles
- Reduces cost of dog license
- Ensures no more unwanted pets are born



MCACC has a program that offers a free spay/neuter surgery for your pet called The Big Fix. The process is very simple. You fill out an application for the surgery. MCACC processes the information and in about 2 weeks, sends you a voucher with the list of the participating veterinarians (over 30 around the valley). You have 90 days, from the date of issue, to schedule a sterilization appointment with one the veterinarians on the list. MCACC will pay for the surgery with donations received from the community.

For more information on spay and neuter services and clinic locations around the valley, visit www.SpayNeuterHotline.org

Tune in and catch our animals on TV and the radio!

- Every Saturday on Channel 12 at 9:40 a.m.
- Every 1st and 3rd Monday on Sonoran Living in Channel 15
- Every other Thursday on Channel 12 at 1:35 p.m.
- Every Friday at 7:00 a.m. on KDKB
- Every last Tuesday of the month on KOOL radio 94.5 FM



Save a life and become forever loved— come find your new furry friend at one of our shelters.



Visit one our Animal Care Centers!

West Valley Care Center
2500 S. 27th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85009

East Valley Care Center
2630 W. 8th St.
Mesa, AZ 85201

Phone: 602-506-PETS (7387)

E-mail: ahollis@mail.maricopa.gov

We're on the web!

www.pets.maricopa.gov

MCACC's new approach to delivering animal care and control services reflects the delicate balance that exists between animal welfare and animal control. We strive to be proactive and offer programs to prevent problems before they occur. It is our vision to reduce the dangers and nuisances caused by irresponsible pet ownership and to protect pets from abuse, neglect and homelessness.

Our mission is to promote and protect the health, safety and welfare of people and pets in Maricopa County.

MCACC offers a multitude of services to assist you and your pets.

- Adoption of cats and dogs
- Spay/Neuter programs
- Licensing
- Rabies vaccinations
- Lost and found shelter care
- Stray dog pick up
- Opportunities to volunteer and become foster care givers



Friends of Animal Care and Control

Our mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the special programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

P.O. Box 80739
Phoenix, AZ 85060

602-626-5073

Visit us at: www.azfaccs.org

Friends of Animal Care and Control Thrift Store

The FACCs thrift shop sells a wide variety of gently used items. Proceeds from the sales fund MCACC's valuable programs.



FACCs Thrift Shop
12625 N. Cave Creek Road (North of Thunderbird)
Phoenix, AZ 85022
602-923-6914
New Year, New Hours: Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm
Sunday 11 am - 4 pm
Donation Hours: Monday-Saturday 10 am - 3 pm

Do you love animals? Do you have some items that you'd like to donate to charity? Please donate them to the FACCs thrift shop! The store is currently accepting the following gently used items:

- Clothing, purses, jewelry and shoes
- Dishes, glassware, utensils
- Furniture - indoor and outdoor
- Children's clothing and toys (no furniture or car seats please)
- Books
- Tools
- Household items (lamps, linens, bedspreads)
- Kitchen and office appliances
- Computers, printers, software
- Artwork
- Cell phones, PDA's

For a large item (or large amount), call us to arrange a free pick up at (602) 997-7399.

FACC's mission is to end euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats in our community by raising funds to support the programs of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control.

My Sister's Closet donates a majority of our inventory! Come in and shop for designer clothes, house wares and pet items. MENTION THIS AD AND GET \$5 OFF YOUR \$20 PURCHASE!

